

COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

I live on Western Ave just east of the 1/2 Mile West of Henry Corridor.

① What will you do to Western Ave. to handle the increase in traffic flow?

② I own 17 acres that will or could border the road. What will that do environmentally and financially to my property.

The property is a pasture with 2 ponds on the north side of Western Avenue. It is a deer & wildlife sanctuary/wet land.

③ Is a payment for environmental impact subject to income tax?

Thank you
Jerry

Name: Jerry Read

Affiliation: Land Owner

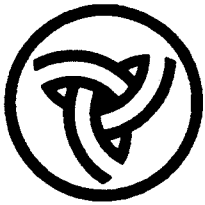
Address: 1356 Western Rd.

Henry, IL 61537

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 17, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I
Illinois Route 29
Various Counties
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Jerry Read
1356 Western Road
Henry, IL 61537

Dear Mr. Read:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed several concerns about the effect the proposed roadway may have on your property and on Western Avenue. If an alternative is selected that intersects Western Avenue, an evaluation would be performed to determine what improvements would need to be done to Western Avenue to accommodate any increase in traffic, especially truck traffic. More details in this regard will be determined as the study progresses.

In regards to your property, no alignment has been selected yet, so it is unknown if, or how much, of your property would be directly affected. As far as environmental impacts are concerned, the Department is required, as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, to complete environmental surveys in order to determine the effect the proposed road may have on the natural environment. Those studies will identify the wetland and habitat features that exist not only on your property but throughout the entire project so that the Department can accurately assess the impact the proposed road may have all aspects of the environment. The Department is required by State and Federal law to mitigate wetland impacts incurred by a proposed roadway project. Payments are not necessarily given for environmental impacts. Properties, or portions thereof, that will be taken as part of the roadway improvement will be appraised at fair market value.

Mr. Jerry Read
October 17, 2003
Page 2

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.
District Engineer



By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.
Program Development Engineer

ML:kme\s:\mgr2\winword\std&plns\squad02\letters\ml00006.doc

Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

COMMENT FORM

ILLINOIS ROUTE 29 DESIGN STUDY

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

I live in Hopewell just off RT 29.
People seem to pass in the yellow zone in
front of Hopewell. There are no signs to
tell people not to pass, it sometimes is very
dangerous now, trying to enter from the south,
and north, how will you control our entry.

Name: Jeff Watts

Affiliation: _____

Address: 121 Spring Rd

Hopewell IL 61565

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 16, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I
Illinois Route 29
Various Counties
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Jeff Watts
121 Sioux Drive
Hopewell, IL 61565

Dear Mr. Watts:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed concern regarding passing zones at Hopewell and correction of the entrance to Hopewell. Please note if the selected alternative utilizes existing Illinois 29, it will be a four-lane highway where no-passing zones are not needed. Decisions regarding the access to Hopewell will be made as the study progresses. More detailed information will be available at future public meetings. Notice of these meetings will be given in local newspapers and will be included in the project's newsletters. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your input will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen".

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.
Program Development Engineer

ML:kme\\ld4ntfs2\pd\mgr2\winword\std&plns\squad02\letters\ml00006.doc
Enclosure(s)

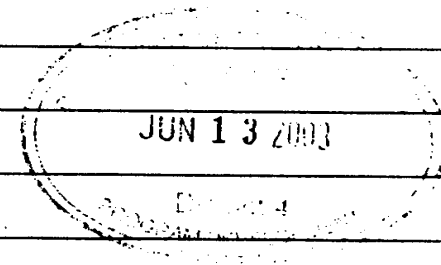
cc: Project File (M. Lewis)
C:\2003\10-16-03\Project File (M. Lewis)

COMMENT FORM

ILLINOIS ROUTE 29 DESIGN STUDY

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

Instead of very expensive construction in flood plain north of Putnam, why not go directly from the 180 hill ~~to the~~ upon the bluff line to the Camp Grove Rd turn? It would appear to be significantly less expensive for land acquisition & construction. Be honest, is this a political solution?



Name: R. Schroeder
Affiliation: member Senachwine Club & partial property owner
Address: 3940 Emerson
Evanston, IL 60103
Putnam County

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.
☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 16, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29
Various Counties
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. R. Schroeder
3940 Emerson
Evanston, IL 60203

Dear Mr. Schroeder:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you suggested an alignment that would stay on the bluff between Interstate 180 and Camp Grove Road. Although this suggestion has merit, it lacks one of the goals for this study which is to service communities along the Illinois 29 corridor. A route on top of the bluff would be several miles from Henry and reduce the community's accessibility to the new route. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your input will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen".


By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.
Program Development Engineer

ML:kme\slmgr2\winword\std&plns\squad02\letters\ml00006.doc

Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study 

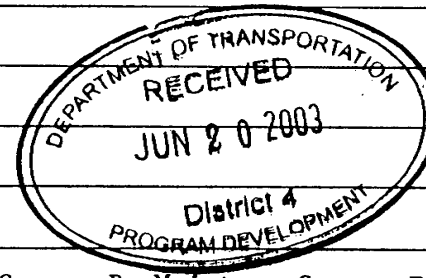
If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

On June 12, 2003, the Marshall County Road and Bridge Committee voted to support alignment C-3 and H-4 for two main reasons:

1. preserve prime farmland (our primary tax base)
2. best chance for economic development in Lacon, Sparland and Henry.

The committee also supports improving the Route 17 and Route 29 intersection with or without this Route 29 improvement because of the truck traffic from Route 17 to Lacon. The existing 2 stop signs and steep grade made this a dangerous intersection. If Route 17 was raised over Route 29, it would be much safer.

The committee asks that you make Western Road (CH 6) a state route from Route 29 to Route 40. This is a logical extension of Route 18. Western road has the highest ADT on the county system with lots of trucks. Marshall County has improved the bottom 2½ miles and top (bluff area) 8½ miles to 80,000# truck access standards, but is unable to fund the 1-mile section going up over the bluff.



Name: George P. Meister, County Engineer

Affiliation: Marshall County Highway

Address: P. O. Box 242

Lacon, IL 61540

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

- ☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.
☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 16, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29

Various Counties

Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180

Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. George P. Meister
Marshall County Highway Engineer
P.O. Box 242
Lacon, IL 61540

Dear Mr. Meister:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Department representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comment, you expressed support from the Marshall County Road and Bridge Committee for C-3 and H-4. The committee also supports improving the Illinois 17 and Illinois 29 intersection with or without the Illinois 29 improvement and the extension of Illinois 18 from Illinois 29 to Illinois 40.

Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know this information. Your input will be included in the project record and we will continue to work with you as this project progresses.

Mr. George P. Meister
October 16, 2003
Page 2

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen", followed by a small horizontal flourish.

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.
Program Development Engineer

ML:kme\\d4ntfs2\pd\mgr2\winword\std&pins\squad02\letters\ml00005.doc

Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

IL Route 29 Study
Illinois Department of Transportation – District 4
Summary of Comments Received
June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The project's first open-house public information meetings were held on June 11th and 12th, 2003 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The June 11th meeting was held in Henry at Henry-Senachwine High School and was attended by approximately 326 people. Approximately 427 attended the meeting on June 12th at Three Sisters Park in Chillicothe. The purpose of the public information meetings was to provide project-area residents with the general status of the project, obtain public input on the preliminary and reasonable range of alternatives, and offer a forum for people to ask questions.

The same information was presented at both meetings, including alignments proposed to be carried forward for additional study, as well as those proposed for elimination, possible typical sections for the different sections of the corridor, a project newsletter and meeting handout. A table and comment box were available for those who wanted to leave project comments at the meeting. Project staff from IDOT and CH2M HILL were available to answer questions and discuss the project alternatives.

A summary of the written comments received at the June 11th and 12th meetings and after the meetings is found on the following pages. Separate summaries are provided for the comments received at the June 11th and 12th meetings and the comments mailed to IDOT after the meetings. The comments were placed in categories developed by the project team to assist in understanding the public's reaction to the project. Most comments at both meetings concerned either a specific alternative or the project in general. The "Miscellaneous" category was added to accommodate comments that did not fit well in other categories. It should be noted that a number of comments referred to the project as the "Peoria-to-Chicago Highway" and commented from that perspective. Table 1 summarizes written comments received at the June 11th meeting, Table 2 summarizes written comments received at the June 12th meeting, and Table 3 documents comments received by mail after the two public information meetings.

Table 1
IL Route 29 Study
Illinois Department of Transportation - District 4
Summary of Written Comments (Received at Meeting)
June 11th 2003 Public Information Meeting
Henry-Senachwine High School - Henry, Illinois

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
SUPPORTS IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	Need better road between I-180 and Peoria	1
	Would present work opportunities	1
	North of Chillicothe, road is dangerous because of high traffic numbers, speeders, and bad drivers	1
	Need an efficient, safe connection between Route 6 and I-180	1
SUPPORTS ON IL 29 ALTERNATIVE	Existing road needs updating, but unsure of whether the state can afford it	1
	Stated that improving existing IL 29 was Rep. LaHood's vision for this project	1
	If project must be done, support improving existing alignment (would adversely affect local economies if IL 29 were relocated)	1
	Project would provide a boost to the Princeton economy	Princeton Chamber of Commerce
	Would improve economic vitality in project area	3
	Need to improve existing roads rather than building on new alignment	2
	Would save land	1
	Would minimize impact to farmland	3
	Would be less costly than building a new road	4
SUPPORTS BLUFF ALTERNATIVE AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	Would be less expensive	2
	Would impact fewer houses than C-3	1
	Would minimize impact to residences	1
	Would minimize impacts to the Illinois River	1
	Would minimize impacts to fragile plant and animal life	1
	The cross-section would be much safer than the compressed 4-lane proposed with C-3	1
	Would result in two roadways, existing and new alignments	1
SUPPORTS HENRY BYPASS		
H-3 (NORTHERMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)		

Table 1 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Written Comments

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
H-4 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	If H-5 is not an option	Henry City Council; City of Henry Mapping Marketing Committee
	Would provide best option for economic stimulation for Henry	Henry Chamber of Commerce
	Would be best for residents of Henry	1
SUPPORTS THROUGH PUTNAM (N-2)	Would be best for residents in Putnam	1
OPPOSES IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	Would favor traveling to Peoria for shopping rather than shopping locally	1
	Would be too costly	1
	Would impact homeowners	1
	Would impact farmers	1
	Would impact wildlife	1
	Do not want to focus tax dollars on this project	1
	If project must be done, choose original plans	1
	As traffic increases, travel becomes more dangerous	1
	Does not believe state has sufficient funds to build project	1
OPPOSES ON IL 29 ALTERNATIVE	Not convinced a traffic need exists	3
	Fears increase in crime	1
	Would cause adverse travel between Lacon and Chillicothe	1
	Would ruin tranquility for those living near existing IL 29	1
OPPOSES CHILLICOTHE BYPASS	Do not want to experience construction impacts	1
S-4 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Safety concerns for winter travel (drifting snow, lack of prompt plowing)	1
S-5 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)		
OPPOSES BLUFF ALIGNMENT AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	Safety concerns for winter travel (drifting snow, lack of prompt plowing)	1
	Would impact sensitive bluff areas	1
OPPOSES HENRY BYPASS		
H-3 (NORTHERMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Safety concerns for winter travel (drifting snow, lack of prompt plowing)	1
	Would impact farm with specialty crop contract (Villiger)	1
	Would impact too many houses	1
	Would cut through multiple irrigation systems	1
	Could impact Illinois Department of Aviation air strip on Villager farm	1

Table 1 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Written Comments

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
H-4 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would sever multiple farms	1
	Would impact too many houses	2
	Would impact irrigation systems	2
	Would impact farm with specialty crop contract (Villiger)	1
	Would be too close to Henry	1
	May impact fairgrounds	1
	Would increase noise in Henry	1
SUPPORT IMPROVEMENTS ON NEW ALIGNMENT	Off-alignment improvements will serve traffic needs further in the future than improvements on existing 29	1
	Off-alignment alternatives in Henry area will not affect prime farmland. Rather it will affect sandy soils that have to be irrigated	1
OPPOSE IMPROVEMENTS ON NEW ALIGNMENT	Would adversely impact economy in smaller towns along existing IL 29	7
	Unnecessary to impact farmland for another north-south route	1
	Would increase time and distance traveled and gas consumption	1
	Would create adverse travel	1
SUPPORT 4 LANE FREEWAY	Would be enough of an improvement	2
	Would not require 65 mph speed limit	1
OPPOSE LIMITED ACCESS INTERSTATE	Would be too dangerous to have an increase in traffic and speed with how curvy the road is	1
IDENTIFY PROJECT AS "PEORIA-TO-CHICAGO HIGHWAY"	Unnecessary to save time traveling from Peoria to Chicago	1
	Not worth impacting smaller towns along IL 29	Henry Mapping Steering Committee
	Would not be direct enough to be worthwhile	1
	Suggest connecting IL 6 with I-39	2 Marshall-Putnam SWCD; Henry City Council
MISCELLANEOUS	What is the project's purpose and need?	1
	Unclear about land acquisition and restitution process and how it applies to individual land owners	1
	When will improvements be completed?	1
	Where will access points be if limited-access highway is chosen?	1
	Suggest upgrading Western Avenue in Henry to IL 18 status so IL 18 extends to IL 40	3 City of Henry
	Requested access points/interchanges: Senachwine Road, Kentville Road, Western Avenue and Goodrich/Whitefield Road	2
	What will increase in distance traveled and fuel consumption be if new alignment is chosen?	1

Table 1 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Written Comments

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
MISCELLANEOUS (continued)	Confusion over why some alignments were “dropped” and if they could be resurrected or not	1
	Suggests adhering to property lines better	2
	Suggests moving H-3 0.25 mile to the west	1
	Concern about the impact to the bluff areas, wetlands, Miller/ Anderson nature preserve, reduction of prime farmland in Marshall-Putnam County	Marshall-Putnam SWCD
	Suggests providing improved access for semi-trucks to industrial areas north of Henry and upgrading Goodrich/ Whitefield Rd. to serve PolyOne Noveon and the new ethanol plant	City of Henry Mapping Marketing Committee
	Suggests providing proper signage to Rt. 18, Marshall-Putnam Fairgrounds and Illinois River	City of Henry Mapping Marketing Committee
	Railroad representatives were not opposed to proposed railroad relocation.	1
	A landowner adjacent to Miller-Anderson Woods said the boundary between his property and Miller-Anderson Woods is incorrect and that this he is currently contesting this with DNR.	1
	Suggests widening IL 29 from I-180 to Kentville Road	1
	More information should have been provided at the meetings	Henry Chamber of Commerce

Table 2
IL Route 29 Study
Illinois Department of Transportation - District 4
Summary of Written Comments (Received at Meeting)
June 12th 2003 Public Information Meeting
Three Sisters Park - Chillicothe, Illinois

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
SUPPORTS IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	Would boost local economies and open up central Illinois to the Chicago market	4
	Need a new highway	1
	Need improvements for economic diversity in central Illinois	1
SUPPORTS ON IL 29 ALTERNATIVE	Would minimize impact to farmland	2 Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce
	Would improve economic vitality of towns on existing IL 29	2 Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce
	Would minimize impact to environment	Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce
	Would minimize impact to residents	2
	Would increase safety of motorists	Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce
	If project must go forward it should be on IL 29	2
	Need to improve existing roads rather than building roads on new alignment	4
SUPPORTS CHILLICOTHE BYPASS		
S-4 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would fit Chillicothe's land use plan	1
	Would minimize environmental impacts (Illinois River, wetlands, plant and animals)	1
	Would be less expensive	1
S-5 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would use open farmland rather than impacting homes	1

Table 2 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Written Comments

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
SUPPORTS BLUFF ALTERNATIVE AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	Would be less expensive	1
	Increase in typical-section width would create safer road	1
	Would alleviate rush hour traffic getting out of Hopewell Village	1
	Would be safer for school buses than widening existing IL 29	1
	Would minimize environmental impacts (Illinois River, wetlands, plant and animals)	4
	Would avoid erosion of the hill	1
	Would provide more space and stable ground on which to build	1
	Would not impact the tranquility of Hopewell	1
	Would be safer than C-3	1
	Would be easier to maintain than C-3	1
SUPPORTS HENRY BYPASS		
H-3 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would minimize environmental impacts (Illinois River, wetlands, plant and animals)	1
	Would be less expensive	1
H-4 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)		
SUPPORTS THROUGH PUTNAM (N-2)	Would minimize environmental impacts (Illinois River, wetlands, plant and animals)	1
OPPOSES IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	Unnecessary because there are fewer jobs in Peoria, and fewer people traveling there	1
	Would increase noise	7
	Unnecessary	2
	Would increase traffic	2
	Would increase roadkill	1
	Would increase air pollution	2
	IL 29 currently is a very scenic drive; expansion would impair the beauty of the drive	1
	Would impact homes	2
	Would impact farmland	2
	Would have negative environmental impacts	6
	Would impact wildlife	1
	Would be too costly	5
	Funds could better serve schools, etc.	4
	Not convinced there is a traffic need	2
	Is not worth saving a few minutes to travel between south and north	3
	Not convinced of the economic benefits project is intended to spur	3
	Would cause light pollution	1
	Believe it will cause property values to decrease	2
	Not convinced this is the best way to increase safety on the roads	1

Table 2 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Written Comments

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
OPPOSES CHILLICOTHE BYPASS		
S-4 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)		
S-5 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would impact city's lift station	1
OPPOSES BLUFF ALIGNMENT AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	Would impact farm with CRP land	2
	Would not help local communities	1
	Would impact a large amount of farmland	2
	Would have higher environmental impacts	1
OPPOSES THROUGH SPARLAND (C-3)	Would have higher environmental impacts	1
OPPOSE IMPROVEMENTS ON NEW ALIGNMENT	Would not benefit local economies	3
	Would increase the amount of concrete covering the ground	2
	Would impact farmland	3
SUPPORT IMPROVEMENTS ON NEW ALIGNMENT	Would impact fewer residences	1
	If project must proceed; would impact farmland rather than more fragile environment	1
IDENTIFY PROJECT AS "PEORIA-TO-CHICAGO HIGHWAY"	Would not be cost effective	4
	Would not be the most convenient route for residents along existing IL 29, east Peoria or residents to the east of the river	7
	Suggest building ring road	20
SUPPORT C-1a	Would minimize environmental impacts (Illinois River, wetlands, plant and animals)	1
	Would be less expensive	1
MISCELLANEOUS	Requests the project maps be available online and in library	2
	What assistance is there for Sparland so it doesn't lose revenue to tear down homes and shift the location of the railroad?	Village of Sparland Trustee
	How will alternatives going through Sparland impact floodplain buyout the state required?	Village of Sparland Trustee
	Is there any information on how this type of improvement affects property value?	1
	How does a project like this affect water supplies and the environment?	1

Table 2 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Written Comments

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
MISCELLANEOUS (Continued)	Where will funding come from if the state is in such dire straits?	1 Village of Sparland Trustee
	When will improvements be completed?	Village of Sparland Trustee
	Suggest existing IL 29 could become a scenic route	1
	Suggest upgrading Western Avenue in Henry to IL 18 status so IL 18 extends to IL 40	2
	Confusion over why some alignments were “dropped” and if they could be resurrected or not	1
	Requested access points/interchanges: Truitt Avenue, Krause Road, Old Galena/Cedar Hills Drive; overpass at Cloverdale Road; Marshall County Conservation Area	4 Volunteer steward, Root Cemetery Nature Preserve; Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce; Hallock Township Trustee
	What will alternative alignment be during construction if new alignment is chosen?	1
	Why not locate the project limit on the north side of Chillicothe where IL 29 changes from two-lanes to four-lanes?	2
	Suggestion for Sparland: on existing IL 29, split freeway around IL 29 so that northbound traffic goes on existing IL 29 and southbound traffic travels to the west of Sparland	1
	Suggest restricting access around Rome Road to minimize traffic	1
	Suggest widening and repairing railroad bridge in north Chillicothe	1
	Citizens west of Chillicothe wonder what will happen to Wayne Road (currently serves as convenient access to Chillicothe and for firefighters to get from Rome to Galena Knolls)	2
	Unclear about land acquisition and restitution process and how it applies to individual land owners	1
	Suggest that the ring road also be built	1 Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce
	Rather than a build alternative, put up signs that say something like “Slow traffic to the right” to decrease the number of rear-end crashes	1
	Suggest using original Rt. 6 alignment	1
	Galena Knolls residents would experience increased noise	2

Table 2 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Written Comments

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
MISCELLANEOUS (Continued)	Suggest flattening southernmost section of the alignment from Cedar Hills/Galena intersection to Wayne Road/Rome Road intersection	1
	Suggest either moving alignment further away from Galena Knolls or putting up noise barrier	1
	Will project substantially lower real estate values for Galena Knolls residents?	1
	Concern about the impact to the environment and fish and wildlife areas	1
	Old Galena Road and Cedar Hills intersection is ridiculous	1
	Suggest project should improve Crow Creek which has experienced serious sedimentation and slippage	1
	Would the intersection of Thenius Road and IL 29 remain open?	1
	All recent floodplain buyouts in Sparland left the community rather than relocating in the area. Concerned that displacements caused by C-3 would have the same result. Identified C-3A as a better alternative because it would not result in residential displacements as C-3.	2
	Has any study been done on environmental effects and what should be done to minimize/mitigate impact?	1
	Would citizens be able to vote on the project recommendations?	1

Table 3
IL Route 29 Study
Illinois Department of Transportation – District 4
Summary of Comments Received after the June 11th and 12th Meetings

Citizens were offered a period of 10 days after the public information meetings to send in their comments to the Illinois Department of Transportation.

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
SUPPORTS IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	Would spur growth in Chillicothe	1
	Would benefit local economies between Rt. 6 and I-180	2
	Provide easier access to Peoria and Chicago	1
	Traffic and accidents have increased dramatically	1
	Long overdue	2
	Would be consistent with Chillicothe's Comprehensive Plan	1
SUPPORTS ON IL 29 ALTERNATIVE	Under the impression that this project replaces alignments proposed in HOI study with improvements to existing IL 29	2
	Would be quicker than alternative route	Bureau Co. Board
	Would require trucks to use less fuel than on alternative route	1
	Would be less expensive than alternative route	2
	Believes that is what LaHood pledged to do by proposing this project	Marshall Co. Board
	Should just increase lanes to 4 where they currently are not	1
	Would provide safest alternative	2
	Would improve truck access from IL 17 to I-39	1
	Would improve local economies	4
	Would comply with Illinois Farm Bureau policy of improving existing roadways	Peoria Co. Farm Bureau
	Would impact less homes	2
	Would impact less farmland than alternative route	8
SUPPORTS CHILLICOTHE BYPASS	If the project proceeds, supports improving existing IL 29	3
	Railroad viaduct would be avoided	1
S-4 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would allow residential growth to get close to the new roadway	1
	Would devalue fewer properties	1
	Would be easier, faster and safer to construct and therefore more economical	1
S-5 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)		

Table 3 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Comments Received after the June 11th and 12th Meetings

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
SUPPORTS BLUFF ALTERNATIVE AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	Would avoid engineering issues associated with expanding through the narrow existing corridor	1
	Hopewell would not experience an increase in noise levels	1
	Would be easier, faster and safer to construct and therefore more economical	1
	Would alleviate rush hour traffic getting out of Hopewell Village	1
	Would minimize environmental impact (Illinois River, wetlands, plant and animals)	1
	Would avoid erosion of the hill	1
	Would cost less than railroad relocation	1
	Would be safer than on existing alignment through Sparland	1
	Would devalue fewer properties	1
	Would not require relocation of railroad causing impact to post office and other local businesses	1
SUPPORTS THROUGH SPARLAND	Would improve an existing road	1
	Would avoid farmland	Marshall Co. Board
	Would not require the burning of excess fuel to get on top of the bluff	1
	Would not create a need for a truck passing lane	1
	Would improve Rt. 17	Marshall Co. Board
C-3	Would have positive effect on area	3
	Would alleviate the need of trucks slowing down from Chillicothe to Sparland and Lacon	Director, Peoria Co. Farm Bureau
	Marshall Co. Road & Bridge Committee passed resolution in support of C-3 because it would preserve prime farmland and would be the best chance for economic development in Henry	Marshall Co. Highway
C-3A (RR RELOCATION AT SPARLAND)	Would improve safety by eliminating stop sign and truck hazards	1
	Would have least damage to town (no commercial district of value)	1
SUPPORT HENRY BYPASS		
H-3 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would be located close enough to Henry to attract businesses	City of Henry Deputy Clerk
	Would be easier, faster and safer to construct and therefore more economical	1
	Would devalue fewer properties	1

Table 3 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Comments Received after the June 11th and 12th Meetings

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
H-4 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would be closer to Henry	1 Marshall Co. President
	If alignment cannot stay on existing IL 29 through Henry, supports H-4	1
	Marshall Co. Road & Bridge Committee passed resolution in support of H-4 because it would preserve prime farmland and would be the best chance for economic development in Henry	Marshall County Highway
OPPOSES IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	Would impact wetlands	3 Marshall-Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District
	Would impact timber areas	2
	Unnecessary	7 Director, Peoria Co. Farm Bureau
	Would impact wildlife areas	4
	Would impact Miller-Anderson Woods State Nature Preserve, Senachwine Wetlands, Marshall County Fish and Wildlife Area, Peoria Park District's Audubon Preserve, Singing Woods Preserve, and Camp Wakonda	1 Marshall-Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District
	Would cause erosion	1
	Would increase traffic and safety issues	1
	Would impact farmland	7 Marshall-Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District
	Would increase noise experienced by residents	1
	Residents would be inconvenienced during construction	1
	Would cause deterioration in peacefulness of corridor and create urban sprawl	4
	Not convinced there is a traffic need	4 Director, Peoria Co. Farm Bureau
	Would be too costly for little or no benefit	10
	Money could be better spent elsewhere	2
	Suggest building the ring road instead	10

Table 3 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Comments Received after the June 11th and 12th Meetings

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
OPPOSES IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL (Continued)	Would increase taxes	1
	Would impact landowners	2
	Suggest creating periodic passing zones	1
	Would impact sensitive bluff area, Prime Farmland, Agricultural Protection Areas, Conservation Reserve Program, and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program	Marshall-Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District
	For a scenic route, people can drive Rt. 26 on east side of Illinois River	1
	Not convinced of economic benefits	7
OPPOSES ON IL 29 ALTERNATIVE	Would not provide the room for necessary improvements that would make project worthwhile (would like new roadway to be an interstate)	1
	Would impact Illinois River Valley	1
OPPOSES CHILLICOTHE BYPASS	Would impact farmland	1
	Already have four-lanes on existing IL 29	2
	Would increase noise	3
	Would not give Chillicothe an economic boost	2
	Would impact homes in Wayne-Hidden Valley Neighborhood	1
	Would impact newly built residences	1
OPPOSES THROUGH CHILLICOTHE ALTERNATIVE	Would reduce property value	2
	Would sever community and would make it much more difficult for residents to get from one side of the road to the other	Midland Community Unit School District #7 (in two different submitted letters)
	Would impact businesses and residences	1

Table 3 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Comments Received after the June 11th and 12th Meetings

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
OPPOSES BLUFF ALIGNMENT AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	Would run through Midland School District and would diminish tax revenue base	1
	Would adversely affect economies of Sparland and Lacon	4 Marshall Co. President
	Would increase the time it would take for Sparland and Lacon residents to get to Peoria	1
	Would cause sight and sound pollution	1
	Would cause adverse travel for emergency vehicles	1
	Would impact the environment	3
	Would impact farmland	11 Marshall Co. President
	Would close secondary roadways and increase traffic on Rt. 17	1
	Would decrease property value	2
	Would impact Steuben Township tax revenue	1
	Would not be utilized by those living in Lacon	1
	Would require upkeep of an additional roadway (existing IL 29 and the new one)	3
OPPOSES THROUGH SPARLAND (C-3)	Does not want higher speed traffic going through town	1
OPPOSES HENRY BYPASS	Would adversely impact Henry's economy	2
H-3 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would impact Villiger family farm which has irrigation wells and 2 center pivot irrigation systems, grows specialty crops	2
H-4 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	Would impact Villiger family farm which has irrigation wells and 2 center pivot irrigation systems, grows specialty crops	2
OPPOSES PUTNAM BYPASS (N-4)	No need to cross railroad twice; there would not be much disruption to Putnam if IL 29 stays on existing alignment	1
OPPOSES RR RELOCATION AT MILLER-ANDERSON	Would require fill and is too costly	1

Table 3 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Comments Received after the June 11th and 12th Meetings

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
OPPOSE IMPROVEMENTS ON NEW ALIGNMENT	Would be too costly	1
	Would impact farmland	2
	Would increase noise	1
	Would introduce drainage problems	1
	Not convinced of the economic benefits of a new highway	1
	Would have environmental impacts	1
	Would impact homes	1
	Believes there must be some redeeming quality to existing IL 29 if it was turned into a state route and a railroad was elected to be built adjacent to it	1
	Would not conserve fuel	1
	Would adversely impact local economies	1
IDENTIFY PROJECT AS "PEORIA-TO-CHICAGO HIGHWAY"	Believe a ring road over the river near Mossville would benefit the surrounding communities more.	13
	Unnecessary	3
	Money would be better served elsewhere	1
	Would impact homeowners	3
	Would be too costly	3
	Would increase noise	1
	Would impact wildlife habitat	3
	Would increase air pollution	1
	Would probably impact archaeological sites	1
	Would introduce erosion problems	1
	Would decrease beauty of the drive	1
	Not convinced of the economic benefits of a new highway	1
	Would not decrease travel time	7
	Would impact farmland	6
MISCELLANEOUS	If Cloverdale Road is closed between Old Galena Rd. and Chillicothe, people in Woodland Heights, Hallock Hallow, Mangold Rd. area would experience adverse travel	1
	Prefers a freeway over a thoroughfare because it would minimize access points thereby making it safer to travel on and across IL 29	Illinois Valley Central School District Superintendent
	Interested in drainage plans for IL 29	1
	How can state pay for this if it is having financial difficulties?	1
	Supports improving Rt. 17	2 Marshall Co. Highway

Table 3 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of Comments Received after the June 11th and 12th Meetings

PREFERENCE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	NUMBER of COMMENTS
MISCELLANEOUS (Continued)	Suggest upgrading Western Avenue in Henry to IL 18 status so IL 18 extends to IL 40	4 Marshall Co. Board & President; Marshall Co. Highway
	How much volume is required to justify an overpass?	1
	Request intersection at Cloverdale Road	1
	What is considered an acceptable increase in emergency vehicle response time caused by road closure?	1
	What provisions will be made to accommodate school bus routes?	1
	Concerned about reliability of snow removal	1
	What is projected cost of new highway?	1
	What will the increase in taxes be for this new highway?	1
	What is projected annual cost to upkeep new highway?	1
	Unclear about land acquisition and restitution process and how it applies to individual land owners	1
	Requests clarification of the use of the word "dropped" when referring to alignment alternatives	Wayne-Hidden Valley Neighbors
	Requests hydraulic surveys and other drainage items for when/if railroad would need to be track reconstruction	Iowa Interstate Railroad & Lincoln & Southern Railroad Company
	Interested in noise abatement possibilities	1
	In northern half, suggests going west of all proposed alternatives from I-180 to Camp Grove Rd. - would be least costly to construct	Senachwine Club

Table 4
IL Route 29 Study
Illinois Department of Transportation – District 4
Summary of All Comments Received

The following table summarizes all of the comments submitted at the public information meetings and sent to the Illinois Department of Transportation.

PREFERENCE	HENRY MEETING	CHILLICOTHE MEETING	COMMENTS MAILED IN AFTER MEETINGS	GRAND TOTAL
SUPPORTS IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	4	6	7	17
SUPPORTS ON IL 29 ALTERNATIVE	17 (Princeton Chamber of Commerce)	13 (Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce)	27 (Bureau County Board; Marshall County Board; Peoria County Board)	57 (Bureau County Board; Marshall County Board; Peoria County Board, Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce, Princeton Chamber of Commerce)
SUPPORTS CHILLICOTHE BYPASS	No comment	No comment	1	1
S-4 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	No comment	3	3	6
S-5 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	No comment	1	No comment	1
SUPPORTS BLUFF ALTERNATIVE AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	10	13	10	33
SUPPORTS THROUGH SPARLAND	No comment	No comment	4 (Marshall County Board)	4 (Marshall County Board)
C-3	No comment	No comment	5 (Director, Peoria County Farm Bureau; Marshall County Highway)	5 (Director, Peoria County Farm Bureau; Marshall County Highway)
C-3A (RR RELOCATION AT SPARLAND)	No comment	No comment	2	2
SUPPORTS HENRY BYPASS	No comment	No comment	No comment	0
H-3 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	No comment	2	3 (Henry Deputy Clerk)	5 (Henry Deputy Clerk)

Table 4 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of All Comments Received

PREFERENCE	HENRY MEETING	CHILLICOTHE MEETING	COMMENTS MAILED IN AFTER MEETINGS	GRAND TOTAL
H-4 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	4 (Henry City Council; Henry Mapping Steering Committee; Henry Chamber of Commerce)	No comment	4 (Marshall County President; Marshall County Highway)	8 (Henry City Council; Henry Mapping Steering Committee; Henry Chamber of Commerce; Marshall County President; Marshall County Highway)
SUPPORTS THROUGH PUTNAM (N-2)	1	1	No comment	2
OPPOSES IL 29 PROJECT IN GENERAL	12	48	67 (Directory, Peoria County Farm Bureau)	127 (Directory, Peoria County Farm Bureau)
OPPOSES ON IL 29 ALTERNATIVE	4	No comment	1	5
OPPOSES CHILLICOTHE BYPASS	No comment	No comment	10	10
S-4 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	1	No comment	No comment	1
S-5 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	No comment	1	No comment	1
OPPOSES THROUGH CHILLICOTHE ALTERNATIVE	No comment	No comment	2	2
OPPOSES BLUFF ALIGNMENT AT HOPEWELL AND SPARLAND (C-2)	2	6	31 (Marshall County President)	39 (Marshall County President)
OPPOSES THROUGH SPARLAND (C-3)	No comment	1	1	2
OPPOSES HENRY BYPASS	No comment	No comment	2	2
H-3 (NORTHERNMOST BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	5	No comment	2	7
H-4 (NORTHERN BYPASS ALIGNMENT)	9	No comment	2	11
OPPOSES PUTNAM BYPASS (N-4)	No comment	No comment	1	1
OPPOSES RR RELOCATION AT MILLER-ANDERSON	No comment	No comment	1	1
SUPPORT IMPROVEMENTS ON NEW ALIGNMENT	2	2	No comment	4

Table 4 (continued)
IL Route 29 Study
Summary of All Comments Received

PREFERENCE	HENRY MEETING	CHILLICOTHE MEETING	COMMENTS MAILED IN AFTER MEETINGS	GRAND TOTAL
OPPOSE IMPROVEMENTS ON NEW ALIGNMENT	10	8	11	29
SUPPORT 4-LANE FREEWAY	3	No comment	No comment	3
OPPOSE LIMITED ACCESS INTERSTATE	1	No comment	No comment	1
IDENTIFY PROJECT AS "PEORIA-TO-CHICAGO HIGHWAY"	7 (Henry Mapping Steering Committee; Marshall-Putnam SWCD; Henry City Council)	31	33	71 (Henry Mapping Steering Committee; Marshall-Putnam SWCD; Henry City Council)
SUPPORTS C-1a	No comment	2	No comment	2
MISCELLANEOUS	21 City of Henry; Marshall-Putnam SWCD; Henry Mapping Steering Committee; Henry Chamber of Commerce)	42 (Village of Sparland Trustee; Volunteer steward, Root Cemetery Nature Preserve; Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce; Hallock Township Trustee)	23 (Illinois Valley Central School District Superintendent; Marshall County Highway; Marshall County Board & President; Senachwine Club)	86 City of Henry; Marshall-Putnam SWCD; Henry Mapping Steering Committee; Henry Chamber of Commerce, Village of Sparland Trustee; Volunteer steward, Root Cemetery Nature Preserve; Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce; Hallock Township Trustee, Illinois Valley Central School District Superintendent; Marshall County Highway; Marshall County Board & President; Senachwine Club)